

10/30/ DISSEM PER SOP #202

~~SECRET~~

FRP: . . . , 5 . . .

STATE

, 25X1

78 0500034

PAGE 001

NC 0500034

TOR: 021703Z APR 78

RR RUEICDQ  
ZNY SSSSS ZOC STATE ZZH  
TSTU042  
RR RUEHC  
DE RUQMKW #1876 0911124  
ZNY SSSSS ZZH  
R 010738Z APR 78  
FM USINT BAGHDAD  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5925  
INFO RUQMKG/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 730  
RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 1628  
RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 214  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 1244  
RUQMDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 918  
ZEN/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 1360  
RUQMRA/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 1032  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 342  
BT

~~SECRET~~ BAGHDAD 0685

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, XF, IZ  
SUBJECT: ABU NIDAL SAID TO LEAVE IRAQ

1. LOCAL SOURCE CLAIMING INTELLIGENCE ACCESS STATES THAT ABU NIDAL HAS LEFT IRAQ, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY. SOURCE CLAIMS THAT BAATH PARTY NATIONAL COMMAND INFORMED ABU NIDAL THAT IT DID NOT LOOK GOOD FOR HIM TO BE LIVING AT EASE IN BAGHDAD WHILE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE WAS BEING EXTERMINATED IN SOUTH LEBANON. SINCE NATIONAL COMMAND IS ORGAN THROUGH WHICH IRAQI GOVERNMENT PROVIDES POLITICAL RECOGNITION TO "LIBERATION GROUPS," ABU NIDAL HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO AGREE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

2. COMMENT: SOURCE LET THIS PIECE OF INFORMATION DROP "BY THE WAY" TOWARD THE END OF A LONG AND NOT VERY REVEALING DISCUSSION WHICH HE INITIATED ABOUT IRAQI AND MIDDLE EAST POLICIES. INFORMATION IS OBVIOUSLY SUSPECT AND MAY BE PART OF AN EFFORT BY IRAQI REGIME TO CLAIM IT HAS DISASSOCIATED ITSELF FROM ABU NIDAL.

3. ASSASSINATION OF YOUSIF SIBA'I, LINKED BY MANY TO

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

STATE

78 0500034

PAGE 002  
TOR: 021703Z APR 78

NC 0500034

ABU NIDAL AND INDIRECTLY TO IRAQ, DID NOT ENHANCE  
GOI REPUTATION AMONG OTHER ARABS. CONSEQUENTLY, FUTURE  
IRAQI SUPPORT FOR ABU NIDAL MAY BE LESS OPN THAN IT  
HAS BEEN IN THE PAST. (ABU NIDAL HAS EVEN GIVEN  
INTERVIEWS AT HIS BAGHDAD HEADQUARTERS TO FOREIGN  
NEWSMEN.) IF ABU NIDAL HAS IN FACT LEFT IRAQ IT IS  
ALSO POSSIBLE THAT HE HAS DONE SO PREPARATORY TO  
A TERRORIST OPERATION.

4. WE DISCUSSED REPORT WITH FRG EMBASSY WHICH FOLLOWS  
SUCH MATTERS CLOSELY. WEST GERMANS HAD NO RECENT INFO  
ON ABU NIDAL.

MACK

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET